

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING HENRY POSEY

HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the retirement of Henry Posey from the Memphis Fire Department.

Mr. Posey has devoted his life to a career of public service. As a fire fighter and the retiring Division Chief for the Memphis Fire Department, he worked to keep communities in the Eighth District of Tennessee safe for over 36 years. In this time, he has truly made a difference in people's lives, and in some cases his efforts have meant the difference between life and death.

I am proud to join Mr. Posey's family, friends, and colleagues in congratulating him for his many years of service. He deserves our deepest thanks and appreciation.

HONORING FATHER J. PATRICK GAZA

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and admiration that I stand before you today to recognize Father J. Patrick Gaza, Pastor of Saints Monica and Luke and Saint Mark Catholic Churches in Gary, as he celebrates his retirement after 44 years of selfless service to the Catholic Church and the countless individuals he has ministered to throughout his life. Father Pat will be honored at a retirement reception on Sunday, July 21, 2013, at Avalon Manor in Merrillville, Indiana.

Father Gaza dedicated his life to becoming a priest from the time of his studies at Saints Peter and Paul School in Merrillville. Since then, he has not faltered in his commitment to God and to serving the people of his community, especially those most in need. He completed his higher education at Our Lady of the Lake Seminary in Wawasee, Indiana, Saint Meinrad College in Saint Meinrad, Indiana, and Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. In 1968, Father Gaza was ordained a Catholic priest at Saint Peter's Basilica in Vatican City. Through his experiences as an instructor of religion at Bishop Noll Institute in Hammond, as well as his supervision of theological field education at the North American College in Rome, Father Gaza has contributed tremendously to the religious schooling of youth. These stand as just a few teaching experiences among his extensive contributions to the younger generation.

In 1992, Father Patrick Gaza became Pastor of Saints Monica and Luke Catholic Church. With his devoted guidance, the church has thrived in the community and has expanded its community outreach efforts. In

2007, Father Pat was also assigned Pastor of Saint Mark Catholic Church in Gary. Throughout the years, Father Gaza has served in various organizations throughout Northwest Indiana and Gary, including the LaPorte County FEMA Food Program, the Gary Ten Point Coalition, the Gary Urban Enterprise Association, the Gary branch of the NAACP, Rebuilding Together, and the Catholic Youth Organization. Father Gaza's involvement with these organizations evidences his absolute commitment to minister and tirelessly work and advocate on behalf of "the least amongst us." Those who are without, those who suffer physically or are challenged physiologically, and those who need spiritual guidance have always found compassion, warmth, and a generosity of spirit in Father Pat. Father J. Patrick Gaza is a gifted, Godly, and good man. For his constant and passionate devotion to his God, his church and his flock, Father is worthy of our profound respect and gratitude.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Father Patrick Gaza for his lifetime of leadership and selfless service to others. Saints Monica and Luke and Saint Mark Catholic Churches, the community of Gary, and all of Northwest Indiana have certainly been blessed by the good work of Father Gaza.

FEDERAL AGRICULTURE REFORM AND RISK MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Ms. CLARKE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in vehement opposition to H.R. 2642, the Federal Agriculture Reform and Risk Management Act of 2013. Specifically, I oppose separating nutrition assistance programs from the agricultural subsidies programs and this is exactly what this bill does.

Agricultural and nutrition assistance programs have traditionally moved through Congress as part of the same authorizing legislation, allowing us to comprehensively address both issues.

This amalgamation has united urban and rural areas of America, serving as a manifestation of the connection shared between these seemingly disparate communities.

Divorcing food stamps from agricultural subsidies would halt much-needed action that insures funding for food assistance to low-income Americans.

Republicans accuse Democrats of playing politics with farm issues, yet they propose a two-bill strategy that is likely to stagnate any progress toward assisting the nation's most vulnerable populations.

The moment has arrived in our Congress where we have the ability to pass legislation that ensures a child can focus on a homework

assignment without the distraction of hunger, guarantees healthy meals to struggling families who have been hit hard by the recent economic downturn, and lends to the economic advancement of communities across the country.

Forty-seven million people experience food insecurity in the United States. In New York alone, over three million New Yorkers receive food stamps. This bill as it currently stands is an attack on the nutrition programs, specifically food stamps.

We have an unparalleled moment of opportunity to generate policy that is in tune with the circumstances of ALL of the American people—those in both rural and urban communities.

Decoupling the nutrition programs from the agricultural subsidies programs will in effect be the death nail for the food stamps program. There will be no incentives for conservatives to support nutritional programs if this decoupling occurs, which is why I oppose this bill.

CONGRATULATING JON MOWL AND THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION TO THE 2013 SUMMER DEAFLYMPICS IN SOFIA, BULGARIA

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Jon Mowl and the 180 deaf and hard of hearing athletes and coaches heading to Sofia, Bulgaria for the 2013 Summer Deaflympics. Held quadrennially, the Deaflympics are the world's second oldest multiple sports games after the Olympics. From July 26 through August 4 this summer, Sofia will host 14,707 athletes from over 90 countries.

The Summer Deaflympics are built on 89 years of tradition. At the recent 2009 Summer Deaflympics in Taipei, Taiwan, more than 2,500 athletes from 77 nations participated, including 140 Americans. The Summer Deaflympics are sanctioned by the International Olympic Committee. For the 2013 Summer Deaflympics, the United States plans to bring its best team that has been training for four years for this opportunity. The need for separate games for deaf athletes is not just evident in the number of participants. Deaf athletes are distinguished from all others in their special communication needs on the sports field. Visual presentation of information during the Games for both athletes and visitors are a critical part of the Games infrastructure, which includes the use of video screens, captioning and information boards. A visual environment is critical for communication with deaf athletes, deaf officials and deaf spectators.

Unlike Olympians or Paralympians, elite deaf and hard of hearing athletes must

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

fundraise to pay their way and do not receive financial support from the United States Olympic Committee. This presents a twofold challenge for the Deaflympics athletes: fundraising on top of training for the Games. People like you who support the mission of USADSF and its athletes are the ones who make it possible for the athletes to accomplish their lifelong dream. Each Deaflympian must fundraise \$2,350 (not including international travel and training camp expenses) to cover all costs at the 2013 Summer Deaflympics. Over 180 United States deaf and hard of hearing athletes and coaches are training for Sofia to represent the U.S. in 11 sports. Among them will be Jon Mowl of Alexandria, Virginia who will be competing in team handball.

An accomplished athlete, Jon scored over 1,300 in his four year career on the Gallaudet University basketball team and was on the team that went to the 2007 World Deaf Basketball Championships. This earned him a spot on the U.S. Deaflympics gold medal winning basketball team at the 2009 Deaflympics in Taiwan.

Mowl graduated from Gallaudet with a Bachelor of Science in mathematics and went on to become an adjunct mathematics professor at Gallaudet for a semester before getting a job at the Department of Health and Human Services. He was hired into the Workforce Recruitment Program and later transitioned to DLA Finance Energy. Mowl's primary responsibilities are budget formulation and execution of the \$425 million sustainment, restoration and modernization program at DLA Finance Energy.

Since the 1935 London Summer Deaflympics, the United States of America Deaf Sports Federation has been sending elite deaf and hard of hearing Americans to compete in the Deaflympics. USA Deaf Sports Federation (USADSF) is the only national athletic association in the United States that coordinates the participation of American deaf and hard of hearing individuals in international sport competitions. USADSF is affiliated with the International Committee of Sports for the Deaf (ICSD) and the International Olympic Committee (IOC). They support teams in 17 sports and represent over 100,000 deaf and hard of hearing athletes in the United States and have sent 2,031 Deaflympians to the Summer and Winter Deaflympics since 1935. The Deaflympics were the first international games for athletes with disabilities and, different from many other games, because athletes cannot be guided by sounds (i.e. a starters gun), they must rely on other methods of competition and refereeing.

Mr. Speaker, Jon Mowl and his 179 teammates deserve this body's support. Their success is an example of preserving talent through resilience and dedication in the face of hardship.

HONORING OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL CHURCH AS THEY CELEBRATE THEIR 75TH ANNUAL FEAST

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise today to join the many families, pa-

rishioners, and community leaders as Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church celebrates its 75th Annual Feast—a celebration which raises funds to support the Our Lady of Mount Carmel School and its students.

Over the last 75 years, the congregants of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church have to commemorate “the devotion that the Blessed Virgin Mary has to those who are committed to her.” The four-day feast features food, fun, and fellowship. After Sunday Mass at noon, there is a procession of the Our Lady of Mount Carmel statue and a float featuring a young girl chosen to portray the feast's icon. The procession travels through an arch located behind the church, which was permanently installed and then two smaller temporary arches which have been erected for the occasion.

Dozens of parishioners volunteer their time, working arduously for weeks preparing for this annual event. Two hundred pounds of ground beef, two hundred forty pounds of sausage, five hundred pounds of onions, over two thousand pounds of veal hearts and more than four thousand pounds of dough—the food preparation is a massive undertaking which utilizes the two permanent kitchens in the church hall as well as an industrial stove that is temporarily installed. Sausage and peppers, soffritto and fried dough are among the feast favorites.

Perhaps what is most special about the Feast is that it is a means to preserve, celebrate, and pass on the culture and traditions of this Italian-American community. People across the country struggle to create a sense of community—a sense of belonging. Over the course of its 75 year history, the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Feast has served as a way for the families of Waterbury to do just that.

It is events like the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Feast, those forged in the bonds of family and community, which allow generation after generation to understand and celebrate their shared heritage. They enrich our communities as well as renew our commitment to faith and family. I am honored to stand today to extend my warmest congratulations to the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish and its many families as they celebrate the 75th anniversary of their Feast. The annual tradition is a community treasure and I wish them all the best for many more successful years to come.

HONORING MARTINE THOMAS OF ROCHESTER, NY ON HER SELECTION TO THE NATIONAL YOUTH ORCHESTRA OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a talented young musician from the 25th District of New York. Martine Thomas of Rochester was selected on March 4th to participate in the first National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America.

Ms. Thomas, a student at the Joseph C. Wilson Magnet High School, plays viola. She is also a member of the Rochester Philharmonic Youth Orchestra. In addition to her orchestral commitments Ms. Thomas is a

member of the Garth Fagan Student Dance Company and enjoys hiking, swimming, and biking. Ms. Thomas hopes to pursue a career in viola performance.

She will join a group of 120 of the finest young musicians in this country aged 16–19, each of whom was selected from over 1,200 applicants from all 50 states. Organized by the famed Carnegie Hall in New York City, it is truly a significant accomplishment. As part of their experience, in July the group will travel to New York for two weeks of rehearsals at SUNY-Purchase, and then embark on an international tour that includes a debut performance at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, as well as performances in Moscow, St. Petersburg, and London. The last concert in London will be broadcast as part of the BBC Proms.

While there are many terrific local and regional youth orchestras (such as the Rochester Philharmonic Youth Orchestra) in this country and several successful national youth orchestras in other countries, the National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America is a unique and unparalleled opportunity for young, high school-aged musicians in the United States to be recognized as the pinnacle of our music training system. The success of Venezuela's El Sistema has generated increased international interest in the value of youth orchestras, and in my role as the Chair of the Congressional Arts Caucus, I am thrilled that Carnegie Hall has spearheaded this initiative to showcase America's finest young musicians and reinvigorate interest in youth musicianship at home and abroad.

I am proud of Ms. Thomas, and proud of the entire group of musicians selected to represent their hometowns and the United States as cultural ambassadors during their time with the National Youth Orchestra. I encourage all of my colleagues—many, many of whom also have constituents who were chosen—to join me in wishing these extraordinary young and talented individuals the best of luck on their tour. Many congratulations to Ms. Thomas and to Carnegie Hall in this endeavor.

HONORING DERREK COLLEY

HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Paris Police Patrolman Derrek Colley for his bravery in the line of duty. Because of Officer Colley's courage in the face of danger, the city of Paris, Tennessee narrowly avoided a tragedy.

On January 24, 2013, Officer Colley responded to a call at Pine Ridge Apartments, a local apartment complex. After hearing calls for help, he located a man standing in the doorway of Apartment 710. The man was engulfed in smoke, and he was unable to move himself to safety. Additionally, there were several oxygen tanks in the apartment, and the man feared a catastrophic explosion as the flames slowly spread toward them.

In spite of the chaos and confusion, Officer Colley remained calm and professional. Disregarding his own safety, Officer Colley rescued the immobilized man and pulled him to safety. Then, he called for additional backup

of emergency services to fight the fire, and began evacuating the other apartments.

Mr. Speaker, the citizens of Paris, Tennessee are safer because of the selfless acts of bravery from public servants like Officer Colley. We are lucky to have such professional and well-trained personnel to protect our community. I am honored to join his colleagues and neighbors in applauding him for his courage.

CELEBRATING JAMES DARBY AND
PATRICK BOVA

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the 50th anniversary of James Darby and Patrick Bova. Since 1963, Jim and Patrick have been in a loving, devoted relationship and together they have fought to secure marriage equality in Illinois and to allow gay and lesbian Americans to serve openly in the armed forces. I am proud to recognize this Chicago couple who have been at the forefront of the fight for equality in Illinois and across the country.

Jim was born and raised on the south side of Chicago, where he worked in the stockyards before enlisting in the Navy. He served four years during the Korean War as a Communications Technician Second Class. In this role, Jim worked as a cryptographer and Russian linguist and earned both the National Defense Service Medal and the Naval Occupation Service Medal.

Patrick grew up in Pennsylvania and attended Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. before moving to Chicago in 1960 to attend the University of Chicago Graduate School in Education.

After Jim's honorable discharge from the military, he met Patrick in Chicago on July 17, 1963. They have been in a committed relationship ever since. Jim spent a 29-year career as a teacher in the Chicago Public Schools where he was recognized in 1985 as the Outstanding Teacher of the Year. Patrick spent a career working at the National Opinion Research Center. When Illinois legalized same-sex civil unions in 2011, Jim and Patrick were among the first couples to share in that new form of partnership.

Together, Jim and Patrick have been working to ensure equality for all Americans serving in our armed forces. Jim founded the Chicago chapter of American Veterans for Equal Rights (AVER) in 1992 and served for many years on the organization's executive board. Jim and Patrick have attended every AVER conference since 1992 and fought together to end discrimination against gay men and lesbians serving in the United States Armed Forces and for the repeal of Don't Ask Don't Tell.

Jim and Patrick are also active in the fight for marriage equality in Illinois. As the lead plaintiffs in *Darby v. Orr*, the case before the Illinois Supreme Court challenging the ban on marriage equality as unconstitutional, Jim's and Patrick's advocacy and testimony have been instrumental in the fight to bring equal rights to all citizens of Illinois.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognition of the 50th Anniversary of

James Darby and Patrick Bova, a Chicago couple whose patriotic advocacy is improving the lives of gay and lesbian Americans in Illinois and across the country.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE RAMSEY COUNTY
FAIR

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the many dedicated volunteers, exhibitors, sponsors and visitors of the Ramsey County Fair on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of this community festival. This annual fair attracts thousands of attendees through a wide variety of events and activities that entertain families today.

The Ramsey County Fair began in 1913 in White Bear Lake, Minnesota as a simple agricultural event where farmers showcased produce and livestock as well as recent innovations. As the rural parts of Ramsey County gave way to suburban development during the 1950's, the fair had to adjust its events to appeal to a new generation of visitors. Creative arts activities and shows became more prevalent than traditional agriculture. As local historian Jim Lindner has said "the fair had to change to stay relevant, and it did." In 1953, the White Bear Lake School Board purchased the former fairgrounds to expand a local school, forcing the fair to find a new home. The fair opened in its current location in Maplewood, Minnesota in 1954 on what was known as the Ramsey County Poor Farm.

As the Ramsey County Fair prepares to begin its second century of community celebration, the event continues to educate, entertain and delight families from across the Saint Paul-Minneapolis metropolitan area. Mr. Speaker, in honor of the 100th Anniversary of the Ramsey County Fair, I am pleased to submit this statement.

HONORING PEARL HARBOR
SURVIVOR WALTER R. GORR

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Pearl Harbor survivor Walter R. Gorr, who passed away on July 8. Staff Sergeant Gorr served the United States of America honorably and earned a Bronze Star.

Mr. Gorr was born in Shell Lake, Wis., on July 4, 1918. He was living in Tracy, California at the Astoria Gardens care facility following a long illness.

In addition to serving in the United States Army, Mr. Gorr was a member of Mount Oso Masonic Lodge, the Order of the Eastern Star, the Tracy American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars posts and several other organizations. He was a proud member of the First United Methodist Church.

Mr. Gorr leaves behind a son, Darrell Gorr, and his wife, Sherry, of San Jose; a daughter, Linda Hahn, and her husband, Mark, of

Ladera Ranch; and two grandchildren. Preceding his death were his wife of 61 years, Dorothy Gorr, who died in 2008, three brothers and five sisters.

Walter R. Gorr was a retired Tracy High School teacher but is probably best known as Tracy's last Pearl Harbor survivor.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Walter R. Gorr for his accomplishments and contributions. He will be remembered as a highly respected Tracy school teacher and for his efforts in bettering and developing services for veterans.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE FEDERAL
EMPLOYEE SHORT-TERM
DISABILITY INSURANCE ACT OF
2013

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, as many of our federal workers face furloughs and a third year of pay freezes, I introduce the Federal Employee Short-Term Disability Insurance Act of 2013, which will help provide some financial relief for federal employees who suffer a short-term injury or disability. This bill will offer federal employees short-term disability insurance at no cost to the federal government. Employees will be responsible for 100 percent of the premiums. If federal employees elect to purchase the short-term insurance provided for in my bill, and they become injured or ill because of a non-work-related injury or illness, they will be able to collect disability insurance benefits, for up to one year, to replace a portion of their lost income.

I decided to investigate how we could provide short-term disability insurance to federal employees after learning that many of them already buy short-term disability insurance as individuals in the private market at high rates. Although federal employees have good health insurance, federal health benefits do not replace lost income if employees are unable to work. And, while federal employees may have available sick or annual leave days, they may not have enough such days if they have to be out of work for an extended period of time. Moreover, although there are long-term disability options for federal employees who become permanently disabled, federal employees do not qualify for such benefits if they have not worked for at least 18 months. My bill does no more than put federal employees in the same position as their private sector counterparts, who have access to disability insurance through their employers at group rates. The bill will not allow participating insurance companies to exclude persons based on pre-existing conditions. And, because of the federal government's purchasing power, the bill will provide all of these benefits at a more competitive rate than is available if an employee sought such insurance as an individual.

According to the Social Security Administration, studies indicate that a 20-year-old worker has a one in four chance of becoming disabled by retirement age. The majority of disabilities are not caused by major accidents,

but by conditions or illnesses, such as cancer or back injuries, according to the Council for Disability Awareness.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this bill.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$16,738,188,365,630.03. We've added \$6,111,311,316,716.95 to our debt in 4.5 years. This is \$6 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

RECOGNIZING ERNEST J. GAINES FOR RECEIVING THE NATIONAL MEDAL OF ARTS FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Ernest J. Gaines for receiving the National Medal of Arts from the President of the United States for his achievements as an author and teacher in the state of Louisiana.

When presenting this award, President Barack Obama praised Dr. Gaines for rising above early childhood adversities in the segregated rural south to make unique contributions to American literature. The President also thanked Gaines for spending "more than 20 years teaching college students to find their own voices and reclaiming some of the stories of their own families and their own lives."

Describing his journey as a novelist, Gaines once said, it was "only when I tried to write about Louisiana, that I really put everything I had—my soul—and everything I had into it." Gaines said he traveled swamps, bayous, restaurants and bars throughout South Louisiana to prepare to write his classic novel, *A Lesson Before Dying*. Following its publication, he received a Pulitzer Prize nomination and the National Book Critics Circle Award. Screen play adaptations of three of his novels have also broadcast on CBS and HBO.

As writer-in-residence emeritus at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Dr. Gaines holds numerous honors, including the National Humanities Medal and recognition by the Academy of Achievement, the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and the Order of Art and Letters in France.

Louisiana is blessed to have this world-famous author among us. As a national treasure, his books will continue to inspire future generations of Americans.

HONORING DR. F. JOE CROSSWHITE

HON. JASON T. SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Dr. F. Joe

Crosswhite, a lifelong teacher and mentor from Springfield, Missouri. As a boy, Joe grew up during the Great Depression taking any job he could find to help his family pay the bills. After marrying his high school sweetheart, Dorothy Berry, he enrolled at the University of Missouri, Columbia, and earned his B.S. in Education with dual majors in Mathematics and English Literature. He taught high school mathematics in Salem, Missouri where he was chosen as the faculty sponsor for the Class of 1957. As a testament to his character, he not only mentored that class for the next four years of high school, but maintained a 60 year relationship with his students, attending class reunions and other events.

Dr. Crosswhite earned his M.Ed. in Secondary Education and Ph.D. in Mathematics education before retiring from The Ohio State University with the title of Professor Emeritus and accepting a full time position as President of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. Dr. Crosswhite was the President of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) from 1984–1986 when the national mathematics standards were first being developed. This was the first attempt by an organization to develop national standards and guidelines for the teaching and learning of any subject. He finished his career at Northern Arizona University as a professor of Mathematics.

Joe has shown his incredible ability to transform lives and encourage students to strive toward their dreams. There are two separate scholarships given in his name to students who demonstrate excellence in mathematics. Joe's many accolades do not outshine his love of teaching or his unparalleled devotion to his students, for which he will always be remembered. He is well respected and loved by all who know him.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, on July 10, 2013, I was unavoidably detained and was not present for rollcall vote No. 343. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

CELEBRATING TLC PROPERTIES 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the 25th Anniversary of TLC Properties.

TLC Properties was founded 25 years ago by Sam and Carol Coryell. The Coryells were college music teachers who had a desire to establish a real-estate business to supplement their income and retirement and to fulfill a dream of owning their own business. Over the last 25 years, Sam and Carol have grown their business from just a handful of units to approximately 3,000 units in the Springfield area.

In 1999, Sam and Carol welcomed their three sons Sam M., Daniel, and David to the family business. The elder Coryells were sure to pass on to their sons the two leading values of TLC Properties: strong character and serv-

ice. These two values, coupled with the entrepreneurial spirit, compassionate care, and friendly service, promise that TLC Properties will continue to grow, succeed, and serve the Springfield area for years to come.

However, the business success of TLC Properties over the last 25 years does not outshine their contributions to the community; they have donated time and money to various worthy causes. Over the years, TLC Properties has been honored with many prestigious awards including the W. Curtis Strube Small Business of the Year Award in 2009 and the Springfield News-Leader Best Property Management Company Award for the years 2009–2012.

I am honored to recognize TLC Properties, Sam, Carol, their sons, and their outstanding staff for the service they have given to the Springfield area for the past 25 years.

ON THE RETIREMENT OF BELLE GROVE PLANTATION DIRECTOR, ELIZABETH MCCLUNG

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Elizabeth McClung, the executive director of Belle Grove Plantation in Middletown, Virginia, who will retire at the end of this month.

Elizabeth has led Belle Grove for 17 years and I have had the privilege of working with her many times over the years. We both worked to establish Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Park, which would not have been successful without her hard work and dedication. She has also made extraordinary improvements to the manor through her passion for restoration and historic preservation.

I want to commend Elizabeth on an outstanding job. I wish her all the best in her retirement in Highland County.

I submit a recent news article from the Winchester Star on Elizabeth's remarkable career.

[From the Winchester Star, July 9, 2013]

EXITING BELLE GROVE DIRECTOR RECEIVES PRAISE

(By Laura McFarland)

MIDDLETOWN.—Belle Grove Plantation Executive Director Elizabeth McClung is going out on a high note. With the house in good shape, visitation up, and a "great board in place," she said she is leaving Belle Grove in good hands.

She will retire July 31 after almost 17 years with the historic house in Middletown.

Although there are plenty of new milestones ahead for the historic manor, McClung said she doesn't have any regrets in leaving them to her successor. She is proud of what she accomplished at Belle Grove during her time and will remain an "enthusiastic supporter and continue cheering from the grandstands."

"I wanted to leave on an upswing, and I also didn't want to stay long enough to become an antique," she said with a laugh. McClung gave her notice to Belle Grove's board of directors in March and a search committee was formed to fill the position, said John Adamson, chairman of the board.

An announcement about her replacement could be made as early as this week.

During McClung's time at Belle Grove, she demonstrated that running the house was as much about helping it become part of the community as "preserving limestone walls and beautiful grounds," Adamson said. He praised her for doing the latter as well.

TRIPLED HOLDINGS

Under McClung, Belle Grove has tripled its property holdings with the acquisition of 183 adjacent acres and of Bowman's Fort near Strasburg, Adamson said.

Both of these historic sites are within the boundaries of the Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historical Park, he said.

McClung championed the need for the park, was part of the team that wrote the original legislation to establish it, and helped create a general management plan to act as a road map for its future.

Adamson says the "active partnerships" McClung built with a number of organizations in the community are a big part of what made the park possible.

"I think Elizabeth has been the glue that pulled all of these together and made Belle Grove something personal to each of these organizations," said Adamson, of Strasburg.

MANOR HOUSE IMPROVEMENTS

That energy was also focused on Belle Grove, whether it was creating or putting together an event or working to improve the house itself, said Nancy Lee Comer, lead volunteer. McClung approached the projects with a passion and organization that simply makes people "feel at ease as soon as they meet her."

The 1797 Manor House's interior was restored to its historically accurate appearance and the structure and its outbuildings were repaired using historic preservation practices, she said.

"All the things she has done to bring that about on the decorative part of the house—the carpet, the painting, the furniture—all of that has contributed greatly to the house and interpreting it," said Comer, of Stephens City.

Those kind of changes take money, so McClung constantly was looking for new fundraising ideas, ways to improve upon existing ones, or grant writing opportunities, said Sandy Dunkle, chair-elect of the board. She is a "forward thinking person" who is cheerful and knows how to handle herself regardless of the situation, she said.

Dunkle praised the Hite of Excellence Dinner Series—now in its 16th year—that McClung created as a fundraiser.

"It has been one of our biggest sources of income and that is all because Elizabeth McClung brought that to us. Still today, it is a strong part of our financial picture," said Dunkle, of Frederick County.

MAKING CHANGES

McClung had a tough road ahead of her when she took over Belle Grove in 1997, said Fred Andreae, who has been chairman of the board twice and served on the search committee when she was hired as well as the current one that will seek her successor.

Before she came, Belle Grove was run in a "more casual way, a little less businesslike way," Andreae said. When McClung was hired, she put a more professional atmosphere in place and didn't balk when it became apparent that the manor house's finances were not as good as originally believed, he said.

The first three years were the most challenging for her because they were all about bringing the house into the 21st century

"while still keeping the important historic structures true to their period," McClung said.

"There were no computers. There were no financial systems in place. We were the mule train on the information highway," she said. "We had no Internet or hadn't dreamed of getting email because we didn't have any computers."

In more recent years, she faced the same problem as other nonprofit groups in struggling to fund operating costs, she said.

There were cuts in funding from the state and federal levels and private foundations, who were no longer providing unrestricted funds, she said. They began focusing instead on fundraising for special projects.

"When you have a house that was built in 1797 and a lot of property with cattle, fences and other structures, there is always something falling apart that you have to manage," she said.

Over the years, McClung has maintained a small, capable staff and an active and energetic group of volunteers that run the house's day-to-day operations and special events, Andreae said.

"When we go through tough economic times, it is a difficult operation to run," he said. "You have to be on your toes and be out raising money and keeping your staff and volunteers happy. They are the people the public sees."

Other highlights from her time at Belle Grove that McClung looks back on proudly are restoring the historic landscape around the house and gardens, beginning a junior docent program to engage young people to "maintain and preserve important touchstones," and creating the Belle Grove 1797 Whiskey and Belle Grove 1797 Whiskey Chocolates.

FUTURE PLANS

After working at Belle Grove for almost 17 years and in the nonprofit sector overall for more than 40 years, McClung, who declined to share her age, said she is eager for unstructured time.

She earned a bachelor's degree in 1969 at the Tyler School of Art of Temple University in Philadelphia.

Before coming to Belle Grove, she was the director of development for four years at the Museum of American Frontier Culture in Staunton.

McClung and her husband, Kent, will move to their home in Highland County, which they have owned for more than 30 years. The move will allow her to spend time on her artwork, which she hasn't had time to pursue in recent years.

"When you are the director of a nonprofit of any kind, it is fairly strenuous. It involves a lot of weekends, evenings and holidays," McClung said. "It will be wonderful to have time off."

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED CAREER OF BOB TRIMBORN UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to honor the distinguished career of Bob Trimborn, who retired on July 1 after seventeen years as Director of the Santa Monica Airport. Over the years, Bob

has been a critically important advocate for airport neighbors and airport users and he will be greatly missed.

Bob discovered his love of aviation early in life. He got his first real taste of flying at the Hawthorne Municipal Airport, where he flew his first plane at the age of fourteen. He later became a private pilot, a commercial pilot and in 1983 was hired as the Airport Manager in Hawthorne, where he worked for 10 years. He spent three years in Reno, Nevada serving as the Airport Manager at the Reno Stead Airport before the City of Santa Monica hired him as Airport Director for SMO in 1996.

Bob took real pride in telling the story of the rich history of the airport and delighted in sharing a photo presentation about the evolution of SMO. The airport opened in 1917, gave flight to aviation adventurers like Amelia Earhart and Bessie Coleman, and was once home to Douglass Aircraft, which produced the celebrated DC-3.

But Bob's lasting legacy will be his impassioned advocacy, which made a real difference in the lives of airport neighbors and users. He worked tirelessly with elected officials, the commissioners, and the surrounding community to promote transparency and seek solutions to the challenges facing the airport. I congratulate Bob on his many years of service to the City of Santa Monica and wish him all the best in his retirement.

RECOGNIZING LEE GOLDMAN FOR HIS ACHIEVEMENTS IN JOURNALISM

HON. MARK MEADOWS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Lee Goldman of Flat Rock, North Carolina, on having three of his columns featured on the Supreme Court's SCOTUSblog within the past month.

For three separate articles on controversial legal issues to gain the attention of the highest court of the land is a tremendous achievement that deserves to be commended.

Mr. Goldman has shared his writing talents with the 11th District of North Carolina for years. From 2009–2012, Mr. Goldman wrote an op-ed column on national politics for the Asheville Citizen-Times in Asheville, NC. Now, as he did in 2008, he writes his column for the Hendersonville Times-News in Hendersonville, NC.

Mr. Goldman devoted a large part of his life to serving in the federal government from 1964–2001. He worked as Staff Director of the United States Senate Subcommittee on Health and Scientific Research and also as an Associate Director at the National Institutes of Health. Mr. Goldman was a member of the Senior Executive Service, Director of Federal Liaison for the Association of American Medical Colleges and a Senior Policy Advisor for the National Alliance Against Mental Illness.

Mr. Speaker, as a Representative for the 11th District of North Carolina, I commend Mr. Goldman for his talents and thank him for his contributions to our district and nation.

INTRODUCING THE “SAVING AMERICA’S POLLINATORS ACT OF 2013”

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise with the support of my colleague and friend Mr. BLUMENAUER of Oregon to introduce the “Saving America’s Pollinators Act of 2013.” This legislation requires the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to take swift action and prevent future mass die-offs of honey bees.

One of every three bites of food we eat is from a crop pollinated by honey bees. These crops include: apples, avocados, cranberries, cherries, broccoli, peaches, carrots, grapes, soybeans, sugar beets and onions. Unfortunately, unless swift action is taken, these crops, and numerous others, will soon disappear due to the dramatic decline of honey bee populations throughout the country. For over a decade now, honey bees have been suffering rapid population losses as a result of a phenomenon known as ‘colony collapse disorder.’ Another decade of these mass die-offs will severely threaten our agricultural economy and food supply system.

Scientists have reported that common symptoms of this decline are attributed to the use of a class of insecticides known as neonicotinoids. The ‘Saving America’s Pollinators Act’ will address the decline of honey bee populations by directing the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to suspend the registration of certain neonicotinoids—known as imidacloprid, clothianidin, thiamethoxam, dinotafuran—and any other members of the nitro group of neonicotinoid insecticides until the Administrator has made a determination that such insecticides will not cause unreasonable adverse effects on pollinators based on an evaluation of peer-review scientific evidence and a completed field study. The bill will also require the Secretary of the Interior, in coordination with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, to regularly monitor the health and population status of native bees and identify the scope and likely causes of unusual native bee mortality.

This legislation is extremely critical to examining the death of honey bees and will allow us the opportunity to adequately secure our future food supply. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation and protect America’s pollinators.

IN TRIBUTE TO BESSIE MARIE GRAY

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a mother, teacher, mentor, and community leader, Bessie M. Gray. On July 21, 2013 her over 40 years of service will be celebrated and honored along with family, friends, former employees, and former students at a program entitled, “Mother to Many, Teacher to More and Mentor to All.”

Mrs. Bessie Gray was born in Pine Bluff, Arkansas and moved to Milwaukee after graduating from high school, where she met and married her husband, Percy. She began her child care business in her home in 1973 after working as a Head Start volunteer. Gray’s Child Development Center, Inc. became a nonprofit organization and was accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). It was the first African American-led program in the State to achieve this accreditation.

Mrs. Gray earned her bachelor’s degree in early childhood education from the University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee and her master’s degree in educational administrative leadership from Marquette University. She was a State certified child care trainer for many years and started hundreds of teachers on their way to successful child care careers. She served on many boards and is a past member of Wisconsin Early Childhood Association (vice president), Midwest Early Childhood Association, Black Child Development Institute, and Easter Seals Southeastern Wisconsin. She continues to be available for board consultation.

In 1991, Mrs. Gray began purchasing a property on North Teutonia Avenue from the Sisters of Sorrowful Mother. After providing day care services for children at this site for three years, the Sisters gifted the property to Mrs. Gray. For the next 20 years, Gray’s operated out of that facility until its closure in 2011.

Many honors and awards have been bestowed upon Mrs. Gray during her career, including Milwaukeean of the Month (Milwaukee Magazine) 1981, First African American Nationally Accredited Child Care Center in Wisconsin 1994, State of Wisconsin Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Heritage Award 2001, and Black Child Development Wisconsin Affiliate/Child Care category 2009. She has touched the lives of thousands during her 48 years of service to children and their futures. When parents could not afford to pay the child care fees, she absorbed these costs to ensure that parents could maintain employment stability or finish their schooling.

Bessie Gray is a woman armed with a strong personal faith. She taught Sunday school and provided a nursing home ministry. She was married to Percy Gray, Sr. for over 55 years until his passing in December 2010, and is the mother of nine children, with 23 grandchildren and several great grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, for these reasons, I am honored to pay tribute to Bessie M. Gray, my friend. Mrs. Gray’s contributions have greatly benefited the citizens of the Fourth Congressional District.

HONORING THE CITY OF ELLSWORTH, MAINE

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the city of Ellsworth, Maine as it celebrates its 250th anniversary.

Located in the heart of Hancock County, and a gateway to Acadia National Park, Ellsworth is one of our state’s fastest growing and picturesque communities. It serves as the

county seat and is a regional center for Downeast Maine, with agricultural, commercial, and educational resources that are utilized and embraced by thousands of nearby Mainers.

The town was settled in 1763 and named after Oliver Ellsworth, a delegate to the 1787 United States Constitutional Convention. The city combines a comfortable small town feel with the beautiful scenery of Maine’s coastline. One of Ellsworth’s many attractions includes the Downeast Scenic Railroad, which begins in the town and travels along the historic, recently renovated, Calais Branch line.

The residents of Ellsworth embody the values of the hardworking people of Maine, and they take great pride in the rich heritage they have created over the past 250 years. It is an honor and a privilege to represent the people of Ellsworth in Congress, and I am pleased to have this opportunity to help the town celebrate its 250th anniversary.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the people of Ellsworth and wishing them well on this joyous occasion.

SUPPORT OF ROBUST FUNDING FOR THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH AND THE NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of robust funding for the National Institutes of Health and the National Cancer Institute. This funding is critically necessary to support life-saving research for diseases like pancreatic cancer.

In the 112th Congress, I cosponsored the Recalcitrant Cancer Research Act, which calls on the National Cancer Institute to develop a scientific framework for combating pancreatic cancer and lung cancer. This scientific framework will identify the most promising avenues for research and coordinate resources to achieve a greater impact.

Mr. Speaker, strategic investment in pancreatic cancer research is absolutely crucial. While overall cancer incidence and death rates are declining, pancreatic cancer remains the deadliest of all major forms of cancer. Pancreatic cancer has a devastatingly low five-year survival rate of just six percent, and it will impact over 45,000 Americans this year.

Unfortunately, funding for the NIH and the National Cancer Institute has been declining due to inflation and sequestration. I urge my colleagues to support a permanent fix to sequestration and provide the resources needed to help every American suffering from cancer.

IN HONOR OF CARTERET COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER AND THE ASPCA

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to honor the Carteret County

Humane Society Animal Shelter, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and the volunteers in Carteret County, North Carolina, who answered the call to help homeless animals in their local community.

The Carteret County Animal Shelter, located in my district, was facing the loss of its state license and possible closure unless it underwent significant improvement due to a tight budget on the local, state, and federal levels. This shelter is the only facility in the area that provides a place for homeless pets to stay while they wait for adoption.

In an unprecedented outpouring of support from the community, more than 100 volunteers, including 30 U.S. Marines from Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, came together to renovate the facility. The ASPCA, through its nationwide grants program, was more than willing to provide essential funding for supplies and improvements as well.

As a result of this funding and assistance from the community, the shelter was given preliminary approval to reapply for its license and continue its work as a safe haven for homeless animals in Carteret County.

This situation is a testament to the incredible results that are possible when local citizens, along with national organizations like the ASPCA, come together to serve a community.

I want to thank the Carteret County Humane Society Animal Shelter, the ASPCA, and the people of the Third District of North Carolina for their work on behalf of the homeless animals in Eastern North Carolina. These individuals and organizations have provided a tremendous service to Carteret County, and I am pleased to have them recognized by the United States Congress.

RECOGNIZING KIA MOTORS FOR THEIR ONE MILLIONTH CAR BUILT IN WEST POINT, GA

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I come before you today to recognize a tremendous milestone for Kia Motors Manufacturing Georgia: The completion of their one millionth car built in West Point, Georgia. This is a huge achievement for Kia Motors North America and for Georgia, as West Point is the first Kia automobile manufacturing facility on our continent.

Beginning in November of 2009, Kia Motors Manufacturing Georgia has been rolling out cars and keeping over 11,000 Georgians employed. Using on-site and local suppliers, they've helped to grow the Third District's economy with quality manufacturing, excellent jobs, and a deep commitment to improving our community. Kia Motors Manufacturing Georgia's continued success led to a \$100 million expansion in early 2012, increasing their annual capacity to 360,000 vehicles. In fact, the best-selling vehicle in the U.S., the Optima, is built in West Point, Georgia.

One million cars in four years is a huge success for Kia and for Georgia. Kia's achievements showcase how great Georgia is for manufacturing and business, and I thank them for their commitment to improving our district's economy. I am honored that Kia Motors Manu-

facturing Georgia calls the Third District home and look forward to sharing many more milestones with them in the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. ELLIOTT LYNN, WINNER OF AUBURN'S POLITICAL SCIENCE LEADERSHIP AWARD

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend an outstanding young leader who attends Auburn University, which is a leading research and educational institution in my district in Alabama. Auburn's political science department each year recognizes a student leader who excels in both the classroom and the community. It's my honor to announce that Mr. Elliott Lynn is this year's winner of Auburn's Political Science Leadership Award. A faculty committee selected Elliott after careful consideration of his outstanding credentials.

Elliott is from Phenix City, Alabama. He is a senior political science major with an outstanding 3.95 Cumulative Grade Point Average. Elliott is a National Merit Scholar and on the Dean's List. He is a member of many honor societies, including Phi Eta Sigma, Pi Sigma Alpha and Pi Lambda Sigma. Elliott is an Honors College Drummond Scholar and a recipient of the Auburn University Marie Glass Ward Endowed Academic Scholarship.

Elliott is active in helping the community, and he participated in multiple service trips to underserved communities in the U.S. and in developing countries. He went to Haiti to build housing for the victims of the 2010 earthquake. He also volunteered as a teaching assistant with the Victory Mission at a church in Columbus, Georgia, and volunteers at the Columbus Habitat. Last summer, Elliott had the opportunity to intern with our colleague in the other chamber, Senator RICHARD SHELBY, and he has also interned with a Circuit Court Judge in Alabama.

After graduating from Auburn, Elliott plans to attend law school and work in human rights or public interest law. He hopes his career will allow him the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of others.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my congratulations to Elliott and thank Auburn University for producing such outstanding students and citizens.

KILLEN'S STEAKHOUSE

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chef Ronnie Killen and the staff of Killen's Steakhouse in Pearland, Texas. It's no secret that Texas is known for its beef. Killen's Steakhouse has been ranked the number one steakhouse in Texas and the number six steakhouse in the United States out of The Daily Meal's top 20 American Steakhouses. This is an exceptional honor, and reflects the hard work, talent and dedication to culinary

craft that Chef Killen and his staff have contributed. This upscale steakhouse is the only restaurant in the Pearland area serving Allen Brothers USDA prime beef, and I am more than excited to be a loyal patron.

Small businesses make up the backbone of the U.S. economy and play a crucial role in American productivity and economic vitality. We must continue to support small businesses like Killen's Steakhouse, and I look forward to hearing from Chef Killen as a small business owner about the needs and concerns of the small business community.

Congratulations to Killen's Steakhouse for achieving this prominent ranking. On behalf of all residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, I am honored to recognize this achievement. Our community is proud that Killen's Steakhouse calls Pearland home. I wish Chef Killen and his staff the best of luck in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON BARBER

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Speaker, due to attending the memorial for the 19 firefighters who died fighting the wildfire in Yarnell, Arizona, I missed 20 recorded votes on July 9, 2013. I would like to indicate at this point how I would have voted had I been present for those votes.

On rollcall vote No. 308, H. Res. 288, I would have voted "yea" On Ordering the Previous Question to begin consideration of the bill (H.R. 2609) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes.

On rollcall vote No. 309, H. Res. 288, I would have voted "yea" On Agreeing to the Resolution for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2609) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes.

On rollcall vote No. 310, Journal, I would have voted "no" on approving the Journal.

On rollcall vote No. 311, H.R. 2609, the FY2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I would have voted "no" to strike the section of the bill that would prevent the Army Corps of Engineers from updating guidance concerning federal jurisdiction under the Clean Water Act.

On rollcall vote No. 312, H.R. 2609, the FY2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I would have voted "no" to strike the section that would prevent the Army Corps of Engineers from changing the definitions of "fill material" or "discharge material" under the Clean Water Act.

On rollcall vote No. 313, H.R. 2609, the FY2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I would have voted "no" to increase renewable energy, energy reliability, and efficiency by \$245 million and to decrease Weapons Activities by the same amount.

On rollcall vote No. 314, H.R. 2609, the FY2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I would have voted "no" to increase Renewable Energy, Energy Reliability and Efficiency by \$31 million and reduces Departmental Administration by the same amount.

On rollcall vote No. 315, H.R. 2609, the FY2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I would have voted “no” to reduce Renewable Energy, Energy Reliability, and Efficiency by \$9.8 million and transfer the same amount to the Spending Reduction Account.

On rollcall vote No. 316, H.R. 2609, the FY2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I would have voted “no” to increase Renewable Energy, Energy Reliability, and Efficiency by \$50 million and decrease Weapons Activities by the same amount.

On rollcall vote No. 317, H.R. 2609, the FY2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I would have voted “no” to reduce Renewable Energy, Energy Reliability, and Efficiency by \$4.75 million and transfer the same amount to the Spending Reduction Account.

On rollcall vote No. 318, H.R. 2609, the FY2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I would have voted “yea” to increase Renewable Energy, Energy Reliability, and Efficiency by \$1 million and decrease Departmental Administration by the same amount.

On rollcall vote No. 319, H.R. 2609, the FY2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I would have voted “no” to reduce the Renewable Energy, Energy Reliability, and Efficiency and Fossil Energy Research and Development by \$1.5 billion collectively, and transfer the same amount to the Spending Reduction Account.

On rollcall vote No. 320, H.R. 2609, the FY2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I would have voted “yea” to increase Renewable Energy, Energy Reliability, and Efficiency by \$10 million and decrease Departmental Administration by the same amount.

On rollcall vote No. 321, H.R. 2609, the FY2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I would have voted “no” to increase Renewable Energy, Energy Reliability, and Efficiency by \$15 million and decrease Weapons Activities by the same amount.

On rollcall vote No. 322, H.R. 2609, the FY2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I would have voted “no” to increase Renewable Energy, Energy Reliability, and Efficiency by \$15.5 million and reduce Weapons Activities by the same amount.

On rollcall vote No. 323, H.R. 2609, the FY2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I would have voted “no” to increase Renewable Energy, Energy Reliability, and Efficiency by \$20 million and reduce Weapons Activities by the same amount.

On rollcall vote No. 324, H.R. 2609, the FY2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I would have voted “no” to increase Renewable Energy, Energy Reliability, and Efficiency by \$40 million and reduce Weapons Activities by the same amount.

On rollcall vote No. 325, H.R. 2609, the FY2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I would have voted “no” to decrease Nuclear Energy by \$25 million and increase Office of Science account by the same amount.

On rollcall vote No. 326, H.R. 2609, the FY2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I would have voted “no” to reduce Fossil Energy Research and Development and Weapons Activities by \$127 million collectively and increase Advanced Research Projects Agency—Energy by the same amount.

On rollcall vote No. 327, H.R. 2609, the FY2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I would have voted “no” to increase Office of Science account by \$500 million and decrease Weapons Activities by the same amount.

HONORING HOPE CARROLL

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Hope Carroll, winner of the Stars and Stripes Spectacular essay contest, for her inspiring essay titled “What Freedom Means to Me.” I had the pleasure of listening to Hope read her essay at the annual Stars and Stripes Spectacular on July 4th in Portland, Maine.

One of the best parts of my job as a member of Congress is having the opportunity to witness the great talent and potential of our nation's young people. This rising 6th grader, from Lincoln Middle School, represents the best and brightest among them. I would like to take this opportunity to share Hope Carroll's essay with the House of Representatives.

Freedom is bravery, confidence and love. Bravery is standing up for your freedom, confidence helps you believe in your freedom, confidence helps you believe in your freedom and love takes care of it. Freedom is laughing and crying. When my family laughs together there is not a care in the world and that is freedom. We cry together, it is the way we express our sadness, that is freedom. Freedom is dancing around the room when no is watching because being silly and happy is freedom. Freedom is nature, beautiful trees and lovely pink flowers. Freedom is bravery, confidence, love, laughing, crying, silly, happy and beautiful.

Hope showed bravery and confidence well beyond her years in reading her essay, and I look forward to following her progress as a writer.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Hope Carroll, winner of the Stars and Stripes Spectacular essay contest.

HONORING MARK COVERT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the end of an era. On July 23, 2013, the man who holds the U.S. record—and possibly the world record—for the longest continuous running streak will be hanging up his shoes. Mark Covert, a legend in the world of track and field, has run at least one mile every day for the last 45 years.

In D.C. terms, that means he has run through nine presidential administrations, seven economic recessions and over 20 sessions of Congress. On a personal level, he has laced up his shoes every day through storms, heat waves, illnesses, surgery and even the births of his four children. If you ask him how he did it, he'll tell you it would never have been possible without the full support and encouragement of his wife Debi—especially on the birthdays.

Not only has he run through history, he has made it. In the 1972 U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials, Covert was the first athlete to cross a finish line wearing an unusual pair of shoes with rubber soles that were made on a waffle iron. An entrepreneur by the name of Bill

Bowerman had given him these shoes, which became the basis of a little Oregon-based company we like to call Nike. Although he just missed making the 1972 Olympic team, that run—and the nearly 150,000 miles he's covered during the streak, an average of about 9 miles a day for 45 years—secured Mark's spot as a running icon.

Nevertheless, Covert's true impact has been on the many hundreds of students he's coached over the years. He instilled in them not only the skills needed to be successful athletes, but perhaps more important, the skills needed to be successful in life, especially dedication and perseverance in the face of obstacles.

While few of us will choose to take on the challenge of running every single day for 45 years, we can all strive to learn from and perhaps live by his main principle: Never Miss. He may physically end his streak on July 23, but his dogged determination and commitment to leading by example will carry on.

INTRODUCING THE AIRLINE PILOT PENSION FAIRNESS ACT

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, today, I am proud to introduce the Airline Pilot Pension Fairness Act, legislation that would prevent deep, unfair cuts in pilots' retirement benefits.

Nearly forty years ago, Congress established the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation to insure the pension benefits of American workers. When employers terminate their workers' traditional pension plans, the PBGC takes the plans over and makes monthly payments to plan participants who are retired.

When the PBGC takes over a company's pension plan, the plan participants do not always receive the same benefit they would have received if their plan had not terminated. For example, workers who retire before age 65—which the law considers “normal” retirement age—receive reduced benefits to reflect the longer period that these retirees likely will receive benefits.

This is bad news for many pilots. Until 2007, under Federal Aviation Administration rules, airline pilots were required to retire at age 60. As a result, pilots whose pension plans were terminated—like the pilots at United Airlines and US Airways—wound up taking drastic cuts to their pension benefits because the PBGC treated age 60 as an early retirement age and cut pilots' guaranteed benefits as a result.

This problem was caused because the FAA's mandatory pilot retirement age of 60 and ERISA's normal retirement age of 65 were not aligned. ERISA does not provide a special rule for pilots. Pilots earn every dime of their pension benefits and they didn't choose to retire at age 60. The time to fix this problem is today.

The Airline Pilot Pension Fairness Act would put airline pilots subject to the old FAA rule on equal ground with other workers by requiring the PBGC to treat age 60 as the normal retirement age for these pilots—not as an early retirement age. In other words, these pilots

would receive the maximum PBGC benefit for which they would be eligible if they worked until age 65. If they worked until the age of 57, it would be as if they worked until age 62 and the pilot would receive the appropriate PBGC benefit.

Eight years ago, in a 2005 e-hearing Tom Gardiner, of Bainbridge Island, WA, facing the loss of his retirement nest egg at United Airlines, explained the conundrum facing pilots—

“My name is Tom Gardiner and I am a Captain for United Airlines with a total of 27 years of service. . . . If the PBGC takes over the pilots’ defined benefit plan, I will lose at least 2/3 of my promised pension. . . . [One factor] contributing to this huge hit is the adjustment for “early retirement” mandated by PBGC rules. Of course, I have no choice in the matter; the FAA regulations require me to retire at age 60. The PBGC considers that to be

“early” and takes away 35% of what I would otherwise receive from them. It is a classic “Catch 22”. . . .”

Captain Gardiner is not alone. The Airline Pilot Pension Fairness Act would be a first step to restoring some measure of fairness to these hardworking Americans who have seen promised and hard-earned benefits disappear overnight.